

KCC 4770 (K-C 17,310)
PATENT

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph (added previously) that begins "Figure 9 is" on page 5 with the following:

Figure 9a is an enlarged photomicrograph of a nonwoven web in an extended configuration in which more fibers of the web are oriented generally in the direction in which the web is extended is a top plan view of an orientable nonwoven loop material of the present invention prior to being oriented.

Figure 9b is a top plan view of the nonwoven loop material of Fig. 9a being oriented by applying a force to the nonwoven loop material.

Figure 9c is a top plan view of the nonwoven loop material showing that more of the constituent fibers of the oriented loop material are aligned in the direction of the force after the force was applied than were aligned in the direction of the force before the force was applied, the loop material being partially cut away to show the backing substrate to which the nonwoven loop material is secured.

After the paragraph at page 9, line 11 that begins "'Necked material' refers to a material" please delete the paragraph added in Amendment E at page 2 that began "Oriented nonwoven loop material".

After the paragraph at page 9, line 11 that begins "'Necked material' refers to a material" please add the following new paragraph:

"Oriented nonwoven loop material" refers to a web comprising fibers or filaments that is formed other than by

KCC 4770 (K-C 17,310)
PATENT

weaving or knitting. The fibers in the web have a generally random orientation except that more of the fibers are generally parallel to a direction corresponding to a direction of force previously applied to the web. More fibers in the web are oriented in the direction of force after application of force than before application of force. Thus, the force alters the orientation of at least some of the fibers in the web causing the altered fibers to align generally in the direction of force.

After the paragraph at page 27, line 8, that begins "Figure 6 schematically shows," please amend the following paragraph that was previously added:

Figure 9a illustrates a non-oriented, non-woven loop material 90' prior to the material being drawn and secured to a substrate such as the substrate 92 of Fig. 8. In other words, the nonwoven loop material 90' is shown before being oriented. As shown in Figure 9b, the fibers of the nonwoven loop material 90' are oriented by extending the nonwoven loop material by applying a force F to the loop material. Figure 9[[b]]c illustrates the non-woven material following drawing (e.g., extension) thereof to orient fibers of the material in the direction of draw and securement of the material (e.g., material 90) to the substrate 92 as shown in Fig. 8. By comparing the nonwoven loop material 90' before application of the force F as shown in Fig. 9a and the nonwoven loop material 90' after application of the force F as shown in Fig. 9c, it can be seen that more constituent fibers of the nonwoven loop material are aligned in the direction of force in Fig. 9c than in Fig. 9a.